



## Sample Submission Instructions for Regulatory Agents or their designate for Oak Wilt Analysis in New York State

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets (NYSDAM), Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE), approved Arborist or a designate will collect samples. The Cornell University-Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic (PDDC) conducts the analysis of samples.

### Instructions for Collecting and Shipping the Samples

When possible, take a picture of the overall symptoms on the tree(s) and another picture of the symptoms on individual leaves.

Collect six (6) to ten (10) twigs that are 6 to 12 inches long and a minimum of 1/2 inch and not more than 2 inches in diameter from one or more **living, symptomatic** branches on each suspicious tree. A minimum of three (3) twigs is acceptable if the branch segments fit the larger suggested length and width.

Provide a unique identification that is descriptive to you for each sample, such as: "West side of house" or "Elm St.-tree #1, Elm St.-tree #2 and Elm St.-tree #3", etc.; Label each sample accordingly.

Although leaf tissue is not tested for oak wilt, leaf symptoms can provide diagnostic information and may be used if testing for a different pathogen is deemed necessary. Please include 10-15 symptomatic leaves. **Leaves should be dry.** Stack them flat and place them in a separate sealed bag.

Suspect branch tissue for each sample should be placed in a sealable plastic bag. Associated leaf tissue should be placed in a separate sealable plastic bag. Both should then be placed in a third plastic bag to **create a double-bagged sample.**

If using NYSDEC or NYSDAM Field ID stickers, attach the sticker to each sample bag.

Place the completed sample submission form in the outer plastic bag with the twig and leaf bags in a separate sealable plastic bag. This step is necessary to ensure the paperwork does not get moist in transit. Moist paper can break down easily and submission information can be lost on a degraded form.

Inform the Clinic staff that samples are in transit. If you took digital photographs, send them with the notification of delivery to the CU-PDDC laboratory staff at: [kls13@cornell.edu](mailto:kls13@cornell.edu) and [slj2@cornell.edu](mailto:slj2@cornell.edu) .

Ship samples in an insulated container with cold packs. Samples should be shipped on Monday through Thursday via overnight, afternoon delivery service or hand delivered. Do not ship on Friday or Saturday as no one is present to accept weekend deliveries.

### Shipping address:

Karen Snover-Clift  
Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic  
329 Plant Science Building  
236 Tower Road  
Ithaca NY 14853

607-255-7850 (Clinic main office-Sandra)  
607-227-0397 (Karen's cell)



Cornell University

Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic
Oak Wilt Suspect Sample Submission Form
Regulatory



An NPDN
STAR-D Accredited
Laboratory

Collection Site:

Name:
Address:
County: Zip:
Phone: Cell Phone:
Email :

Submission agent (CCE, NYSDEC, NYSDAM, Arborist)

Name:
Address:
Phone: Cell Phone:
Email :

Collection date (MM/DD/YY)?: Date received (filled in by PDDC):

Symptoms appeared date (MM/DD/YY)?: Please use decimal degrees coordinates

Table with 5 columns: Field ID, Genus and species, PDDC #(filled in by lab), GPS latitude (##.####), GPS longitude (-). Rows 1-6.

Symptoms:

- Cracked
Dieback
Leaf distortion/cupping/curling
Marginal browning
Shedding leaves all at same time
Shedding leaves—only brown dropped
Vascular discoloration/streaking
Wilted
Yellowing
Other:

Symptom Distribution in Crown:

- Bottom branches
Scattered branches
Top branches
Other:

Comments: i.e. all same tree or location on lot or health, etc...

Ship to:
Karen Snover-Clift—PDDC
329 Plant Science Building
236 Tower Road
Ithaca, NY 14853